

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 SS-15 NSC-10

OMB-01 CEA-02 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01

AID-20 /154 W

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R 161801 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9270

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

RUFHB / AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 7633

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

UNCLAS PARIS 10570

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: LE MONDE EDITORIAL ON US OBJECTIVES IN AGRICULTURE

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

1. IN A FRONT- PAGE EDITORIAL OF APRIL 14, LE MONDE SHARPLY ATTACKED US OBJECTIVES IN SCHEDULED MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE. MISQUOTING STATEMENTS BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BUTZ DURING RECENT MEETING OF OECD MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE, LE MONDE SAID THAT US HAS AGAIN DEMANDED THAT EUROPEANS OPEN THEIR MARKETS TO AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS OR FACE NEW BARRIERS TO THEIR OWN INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS. EDITORIAL NOTES THAT FRANCE REMAINS DETERMINED TO DEFEND CAP FROM ALL ATTACK AND QUOTES APRIL 10 STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER MESSMER THAT NOTHING WILL CAUSE UNCLASSIFIED

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FRANCE TO GIVE UP EITHER OUTLETS PROVIDED BY EUROPE FOR ITS FARM SURPLUSES OR THE SECURITY OF INCOME WHICH CAP SHOULD PROVIDE FRENCH FARMERS.

2. LE MONDE ARGUES THAT THE US TAKES A SANCTIMONIOUS ATTITUDE ON AGRICULTURE AND, " AS ALWAYS CAMOUFLAGES ITS MOTIVES UNDER HAND-SOME PRINCIPLES"-- " IN THIS CASE THE FLAG OF LIBERALISM. THE US ARGUES THAT ITS AGRICULTURE IS MORE EFFICIENT, AND THAT ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR, EUROPE SHOULD CONSIDER SOME MEANS OTHER THAN THE VARIABLE LEVY TO MAINTAIN THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF ITS FARMERS. BUT LE MONDE CON-TENDS, IF THE US WANTS TO PLAY THE LIBERAL GAME WHY DOES IT PROTECT CERTAIN OF ITS INDUSTRIES AGAINST THOSE OF JAPAN WHICH ARE CLEARLY MORE EFFICIENT. THE US ALSO PROTECTS ITS AGRICULTURE THROUGH QUOTAS ON WHEAT, SUGAR, COTTON, ETC. IN ANY CASE, US FARM EXPORTS TO THE SIX GREW MORE RAPIDLY FROM 1965 THROUGH 1972 THAN SIMILAR EXPORTS TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

3. LE MONDE GOES ON TO ADMIT THAT THE MODALITIES OF THE CAP ARE NOT TO BE PRESERVED AS A SACRED TEXT. BUT AS LONG AS EUROPE' S FARM POPULATION REMAINS SO LARGE, A SYSTEM OF DIRECT PAYMENTS WOULD FALL TOO HEAVILY ON CERAIN EC MEMBERS. IN ANY CASE, THE US HAS OTHER MEANS OF RESTORING ITS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS THAN FORCING EUROPE TO ABSORB ITS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.
IRWIN

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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TAGS: ETRD, FR, EEC
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